

Official Labor Records

Gov. Lee M. Russell and Oscar Johnston

Since considerable confusion has come up and many wild and incorrect claims have been made as to the labor records of Messrs. Lee M. Russell and Oscar Johnston, candidates for Governor, and we have been called upon to answer numerous questions regarding their position upon labor measures, in justice to these gentlemen, and in order to be fair, we have compiled from the House and Senate Journals a majority of the labor and other measures of importance to the Laboring people, coming up for consideration during their legislative terms.

SENATE BILL NO. 275.—An Act prescribing the number of persons who shall constitute a full crew for passenger and freight trains propelled by steam operating or run over a railroad or any part thereof in the state of Mississippi. This bill was called up and voted FOR by Lieutenant Governor Lee Russell; see Senate Journal 1914, page 491. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1914, page 965.

HOUSE BILL NO. 494.—An Act requiring railroads and other corporations and persons engaged in like business to erect car sheds and keep dry all tracks on which cars are regularly placed for repairs at their shops or yards. This bill was for the protection of the health, comfort, exposure and loss of time of the laboring men doing this repair work during hot, cold and rainy weather. Lee Russell voted FOR this bill, which became a law; see Senate Journal 1912, pages 1045 and 1046. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1912, pages 1453 and 1454.

HOUSE BILL NO. 34.—An Act to prevent telegraph, telephone, railroad companies or other firms or corporations employing operators from blacklisting or refusing employment to said operators only because they belonged to labor organizations. This bill was introduced in the Mississippi Legislature in 1908 at the time several of the big telegraph companies were resorting to the infamous and unfair practice of discharging and black-listing their operators only because they belonged to union labor organization. This was an attempt to intimidate and destroy the usefulness of thousands of good operators who had spent several years of their lives to fit them for this particular work. Lee Russell voted FOR this bill and supported the operators throughout. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see both votes in House Journal 1908, pages 425 and 426.

SENATE BILL NO. 166.—An Act to regulate the employment of children of certain ages in mills, factories, canneries and manufacturing establishments in Mississippi, to limit the hours that children of certain ages may be employed, to provide for the inspection of places wherein they are worked and to provide punishment for violation of said act. This is an act of the Mississippi Child Labor Law, where the legislature sought to protect small children from employment in places operating dangerous and hazardous machinery and injurious to the health of young children. Lee Russell voted FOR this bill; see Senate Journal 1912, pages 1104 and 1105. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1912, pages 947 and 948.

SENATE BILL NO. 133.—An Act providing that contributory negligence shall be no bar to recover in action brought to recover damages for personal injuries or where such injuries have produced death; and providing in such cases that the question of contributory negligence shall be left for the court jury to determine. Lee Russell voted FOR this bill. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see both votes in House Journal 1910, page 1378.

SENATE BILL NO. 280.—An Act creating the Mississippi Home Printing Bill, requiring all state and county contract printing to be done within the state. This was an exceedingly meritorious bill, created for the purpose of patronizing home industry and providing increased employment for labor within our state. As Lieutenant Governor at that time, Lee Russell had no vote on this bill, but supported its passage in an earnest manner until it became a law. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1916, pages 1879 and 1880.

HOUSE BILL NO. 165.—An Act requiring corporations doing business in the state of Mississippi to have one

pay day in each month and forbidding the withholding of any moneys due employees for services rendered prior to said pay day. Lee Russell called up and voted FOR this bill; see Senate Journal 1912, page 743. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1912, pages 844 and 845.

HOUSE BILL NO. 310.—An Act authorizing the board of trustees of any school district to spend funds for maintaining evening or part-time schools for vocational education for persons in need of such instruction. This was a deserving measure providing for the proper training and instructions of the laboring people of the various trades, and their children, who had to work and could not attend regular sessions of school. Lieutenant Governor Lee Russell had no vote on bill, but assisted in its passage Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1918, pages 1042 and 1043.

HOUSE BILL NO. 28.—An Act to create a Bureau of Markets for agricultural purposes, to arrange a uniform system of co-operative productions and markets, to find markets for such products in and out of Mississippi. This is a splendid measure and has proven most profitable to farmers and laborers. Lieutenant Governor Lee Russell had no vote on this bill, but strongly advocated and supported its passage. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1916, pages 229 and 230.

SENATE BILL NO. 338.—An Act authorizing the free transportation of school children in consolidated school districts who live two miles or more from the school house. Lieutenant Governor Lee Russell had no vote on this bill, but used his efforts in behalf of its passage. Oscar Johnston did NOT vote for this bill; see House Journal 1918, page 1248.

Among other bills, Mr. Johnston voted FOR the noted fish and game law, the first and only law repealed by a decisive vote of the people the same year of its passage. Mr. Johnston's vote on this bill is shown in House Journal 1916, page 1667. Any representative of the people might have voted for a measure similar to the fish and game law which Mr. Johnston voted for, as legislators are not infallible, but Mr. Johnston was unwilling to give the people of his state the right to correct such laws, and voted AGAINST the Initiative Referendum and the Recall Bill, whereby such laws can be repealed by direct vote of the people. Mr. Johnston's vote AGAINST the Initiative Referendum and the Recall Bill is shown in House Journal 1914, page 1200. Lee Russell voted FOR this bill, giving to the people their democratic rights; see Senate Journal 1914, page 1131.

HOUSE BILL NO. 14.—An Act to require corporations, companies, associations, partnerships and individuals engaged in manufacturing and employing public labor and public service corporations doing business in Mississippi to pay all their employees every two weeks or twice a month. The direct purpose of this bill was to benefit the laboring people generally in securing their wages within a reasonable time after same had been earned, and to protect employees in factories, manufacturing establishments, saw mills and other places from the bad practice of being forced to trade at high-priced company commissaries and to accept brass checks and other forms of paychecks for which they had to discount at a big loss for real money. Lee Russell voted FOR this bill; see Senate Journal 1914, page 1322. Oscar Johnston voted AGAINST this bill; see House Journal 1914, pages 470 and 471.

For your convenience in comparing the above record with House and Senate Journals, we have given Journal date with page numbers in each measure. All Senate and House Journals can be found in the library of every court house in this State.

Respectfully submitted,

C. H. BROOKS, Vice-President,
Miss. State Federation of Labor.
C. W. WALLACE, President,
Jackson Printing Pressmen's
Union No. 215.

O. F. BROWN, President,
Jackson Central Labor Union.
A. J. HAGAN, Secretary,
Jackson Fire Fighters
Union 87.

A. J. GUILLOT, Vice-President,
Jackson Central Labor Union.
SAM E. LARRY, Secretary,
J. B. I. U. of A. Local
Union 475.

S. O. SAMUEL, Secretary,
Jackson Central Labor Union.
A. H. LAMPE, Secretary,
Jackson Typographical
Union No. 363.

THE STREET RAILWAY PROBLEM.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Municipal ownership is the only solution of the American street railway problem, control of private lines having broken down, Delos F. Wilcox, New York franchise expert, told the federal electric railway commission. Drawing from an experience with trolley matters running back over many years, and particularly upon his present connection with investigation of the affairs of the Public Service Railway Company of New Jersey, Mr. Wilcox said there was no escape from the logic of conditions, pointing to the handling of urban transportation as an essential public service and not for private profit.

The street railway problem, he said, narrowed down to four questions that must be determined: First, whether the investment should be regarded as a speculative one or be guaranteed; second, whether the business was to be conducted primarily for service or for profit; third, whether continuity of service was not to be guaranteed, outlasting suspension through strike, and fourth, whether public or private agencies should own and operate the roads.

Outlaw Strikes.
Answering the first question, he said street railway investments should not be treated as speculative, but should yield a fixed return. As to the second, he declared service should always be the governing motive of operation. Disruption of street car service through strikes should be prevented, he said, and strikes be "outlawed and penalized," but only after full protection of the workers had been provided. Operatives should be urged to organize, he said, adding that even some federal government departments would be bettered by a degree of "democratization" which gave the workers a voice in questions of administrative policy and disciplinary

matters.

Finally, Mr. Wilcox said, he had reached the conclusion that "no ultimate solution of these questions could be reached unless we undertake local transportation as a public function." Public control had reached such a point, he said, and a point from which there could be no receding, that private companies could not be given that freedom which alone could insure them success. There could be, he continued, no conservative financial policy under private ownership, and the profit-sharing enterprises such as the New York Rapid Transit agreement merely embodied the bad features of both private and public enterprises.

Members of the commission questioned Mr. Wilcox as to what he would recommend to meet the immediate needs of the trolley company. He said a declaration of an ultimate municipal ownership policy "would clear the air" to be backed up by legislative steps to clear the way for ultimate acquisition of existing lines.

WEDDING AT CALEDONIA.

Miss Irene Goolsby, the attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Goolsby, was married last Tuesday evening at the home of her parents in the Caledonia section, the happy groom being Mr. J. F. Spann, and the ceremony having been performed by Rev. J. H. Newton. Miss Hortense Nickles acted as bride's maid, and Mr. Mercer Nickles was the best man. The wedding was quite a surprise to the large circle of friends of the young couple whose congratulations and best wishes are wafted them for a long and happy wedded life.

The bride is one of the prettiest and most popular girls in that section, the groom is a sterling young business man of Caledonia, holding a responsible position with the firm of L. D. Barrentine at Caledonia.

Mr. Birney Seales has been in the city for the past few days.

THE SUPER CAR.

Greater dependability, durability and endurance have been the supreme achievements of the builders of the Hudson Super-Six.

These qualities result from the patented Super-Six motor which can be obtained in no car but a Hudson. By the use of an exclusive principle, destructive vibration has been minimized and the power increased 72 per cent without increase in weight or the sacrifice of simplicity. It was the superior endurance that resulted from this design that enabled a Super-Six to make the journey from San Francisco to New York and return in ten days and twenty-one hours, and to climb to the "Top-of-the-World" up Pike's Peak in eighteen minutes and twenty-four seconds—records that have never been equaled.

Also it should interest you to know that the sales of the Super-Six exceed those of any other make of fine car. This is a fact full of meaning which makes it doubly worth your while to investigate the exclusive features of the Hudson for yourself before investing in an automobile.

ROBINSON MOTOR CAR CO.

NEW SALEM NEWS.

Rev. Gavin being unable, did not fill his appointment Sunday afternoon but conference met and elected delegates for the association. The following were elected: Messrs. W. N. Cobb, Willie Murphy, Tom Smith, and T. L. Dowdie. The remaining of the afternoon was spent in song service, directed by Mr. W. P. Halbert and Mr. R. W. Bazzell.

Prayer meeting met Sunday evening at 8:30 with a good attendance. Mr. and Mrs. Mat Smith were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Dodson Sunday.

Mr. Earl Williams spent Sunday in the home of his mother, Mrs. Land. Miss Lucile and Nelson Dodson, of Border Springs neighborhood, were guests in the home of Mr. T. A. Cook Sunday.

Mr. Johnnie Smith and Mr. Verner Nickles had a dangerous accident

Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock on the Wolf road, which is causing much pain.

Mr. Smith driving the car got excited and ran into the ditch, throwing Mr. Nickles out before the car turned over. It is reported that the car turned over three times and faced the opposite direction it was going with Smith in it. We remain hoping a speedy recovery for both.

DEATH OF MR. JACK CRADDOCK.

The friends of Mr. Jack Craddock in this county will regret to learn of his death which occurred the past week at his home in the Dunbar neighborhood after an illness lasting several months.

He was a native of Tuscaloosa, Ala., but had resided in Lowndes county for a number of years. He is survived by two sons, Mr. Hunter Craddock with whom he made his home, and Mr. John Craddock, of Tuscaloosa. His daughters are: Mrs. Raymond Locke, of this county, Mrs. Annie Trench, of Preiss, France, and Mrs. Everett Derrich, of New York.

The interment was at Murrah's Chapel on Tuesday afternoon and Rev. J. H. Felts, pastor of the First Methodist church here was the minister who officiated. Mr. Craddock having been a member of this faith for a long number of years. Mr. Craddock was among the oldest citizens of the county, being in his 82nd year. He was one of the few remaining Confederate soldiers.

WOMAN DOCTOR GETS SERBIAN MEDAL OF HONOR.

The Serbian decoration of the Order of St. Sava has been conferred upon Dr. Mary H. Elliot, of Holly Springs, Miss., in recognition of medical services which she performed during the past six months. Dr. Elliot joined the American Red Cross Commission to Serbia last winter and was sent to Belgrade. She operated successful dispensaries in several small towns in the north of Serbia. She is now stationed in Kraljevo.

JOHNSON CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE REPLIES

Our attention has been called to several vile, malicious and slanderous pieces of campaign literature issued by Lee Russell and his campaign committee. Lee Russell knows but one sort of politics, the kind that should be too disreputable to be indulged in by a decent man in public life in Mississippi. His eleventh hour efforts to bring about the defeat of Oscar Johnston by means of falsehood and misrepresentation, circulated by direct statements, innuendo and insinuation is born of desperation, which nerves him to any class of campaigning which he thinks will retrieve his shattered political fortunes.

Russell's labor circular is so utterly devoid of truth that it could not be called a respectable lie. Johnston voted for the Head Light bill. Johnston supported both the bills preventing the blacklisting of employees and the 1916 Crew Bill. He was a member of the House committees which unanimously reported both of these bills favorably and both of them passed the House unanimously. When the Full Crew bill went to the Senate, the committee appointed by Lee Russell, President of the Senate, killed the bill and yet Russell claims to be the friend of the railroad men. Such misrepresentation cannot win.

Russell's cartoon efforts seeking to bring Jack Cutrer and Ex-Gov. Brewer into this campaign is shown to be false. It reminds one of the cartoon gotten out by Russell at the eleventh hour before the first primary, which represented Gov. Longino as toting the wife of a negro rapist. When one remembers that Ex-Gov. Brewer and Mr. Cutrer have both been out of the State practically the entire time during the campaign, and that neither of them have been either instrumental in forwarding his interest nor interested in Oscar Johnston's campaign, the falsity of this cartoon is apparent. Neither of them have contributed one dollar to Oscar Johnston's campaign fund. Johnston's campaign fund has been made up of small contributions from every section in Mississippi. Russell says he raised his in the same way. This is the last stand for Bilboism in Mississippi and the advocates of Bilbo are putting up the money as they have never done before. Oscar Johnston is not a rich man by any manner of means. He has made his fight single-handed, aided only by the support of the good citizenship of Mississippi, which is now endeavoring to redeem the State from the reign of Bilboism and Russellism which has held sway for the past four years.

The circular gotten out by Russell in glaring colors, claiming that some one in Marion County was attempting to purchase votes for Johnston, is a campaign lie, pure and simple. We have endeavored fully to investigate this matter and sought to find out what friend of Mr. Johnston was charged with such action as this, but the Sheriff of the county, who is Russell's campaign manager there, refuses our friends in Marion county any information whatsoever as to whom the party said to be implicated might be. When we consider the fact that Russell carried Marion County by 1095 votes as against less than 200 for Oscar Johnston, it would seem that Russell's campaign committee picked the wrong county from which to start a fraud of this sort if they expected it to be believed. Marion County was generally conceded to Longino in the first primary, but in some miraculous manner Longino was eliminated there and Russell carried the county over all opponents. Possibly the Sheriff of Marion County, Russell's campaign manager, could give some information as to how this happened and what the wherewithal was that turned the trick.

Any charges made that any man would attempt to buy an election in a state wide contest are so ridiculous as a matter of fact that they need no denial. In a state casting 145,000 votes to attempt to buy an election would not only be preposterous but impossible. If we wanted to indulge in dirty politics we could very easily retaliate by procuring the signature of some one of questionable repute to an affidavit that Russell was buying votes and then refer them for further proof to some disreputable party, as Russell has done.

Such campaign methods are not only unfair, but are a reflection upon the intelligence of Mississippi, and we have full confidence in the decision of the people to put decency back into the State Capitol and rid it of men who would resort to such tactics as these. We prefer to conduct Oscar Johnston's campaign upon the same clean, high plane which has characterized every address he has made in Mississippi and we doubt if there is a man who can be found in Mississippi who had heard him speak who will say that he has ever indulged in dirty politics to any degree.

Respectfully,

OSCAR JOHNSTON CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

(Political Advertisement.)

A CARD OF THANKS.

To the people in and near Caledonia who gave us their sympathy and help in the late sickness and death of Mrs. Fannie Wells, we tender our sincere thanks.

W. P. Halbert and wife.
W. T. Mobley and wife.
O. E. Morris and wife.
Willie Wells and wife.
Mortin Wells.

Mr. Chandler Dee narrowly escaped death Tuesday afternoon when a tree near him was struck by lightning. He was in the neighborhood of Pratt's store on the Macon road. Jubel Hairston, a negro, was painfully burned by the same stroke.

Mr. Walter Perry has returned from Greenville, where he has been engaged in erecting electric lines for the Delta Light and Traction Co.

A CORRECTION.

Elsewhere in this paper in making the forthcoming tournament of the Magnolia Gun Club next Friday it is stated that there will be a dinner and barbecue on the grounds. This statement was presumed to be correct when the article was written, but it now develops that a dinner and barbecue is not included in the plans for that event and we make the correction that those attending may govern themselves accordingly.

DANCE AT LAKE PARK.

On last Thursday evening a Subscription dance was much enjoyed by thirty couples at Lake Park. The music was furnished by the "Self Rising" orchestra and it was enjoyed by every one that attended. They danced until a late hour.

Mr. Thos. Townsend, of Inveness, has been in the city for the past few days. Mr. Townsend is accompanied by his family, and the latter will make this city their home after the first of September, taking advantage of the fine schools here. Mr. Townsend is farming on a large scale in the Delta raising cotton and is prospering.

Mrs. W. Y. Cobb and attractive children of Meridian, have been the guests of Mrs. J. C. Hackleman for the past week.

Notice:

WE HAVE JUST INSTALLED AN IMPROVED LUMMUS AIR BLAST GIN SYSTEM, and after having given our gin plant and machinery a thorough over-hauling, we are in position to give our friends and patrons better service than ever before.

Independent Oil and Fertilizer Works

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI